

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2-4, 6, 7 and 10 have been amended, Claim 1 has been cancelled and new Claims 11 – 20 are submitted for consideration by the Examiner. Applicants appreciate the indication that Claim 10 contains allowable subject matter. New Claim 11 corresponds to former Claim 10. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the instant application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments overcome the objections and 112 rejections to the specification and claims.

The rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(c) as being anticipated by Heimann et al. (U.S.P.N. 6,455,100 B1), is respectfully traversed.

The undersigned hereby states that the inventors of this application and U.S.P.N. 6,455,100 were under a common duty to assign any inventions to the instant assignee. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that USPN '100 is not the invention by another.

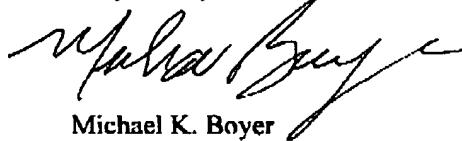
Claim 1 has been cancelled. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 1 as being unpatentable over O'Shea (USPN 3,184,813) is no longer applicable.

Claim 1 has been cancelled. Applicants respectfully submit that the obviousness-type double patent rejection of Claim 1 as being unpatentable over the claims of USPN 6,455,100 is no longer applicable.

Applicants believe that the claimed invention defines patentable subject matter and request issuance of a Notice of Allowability. Please find attached hereto a One Month Extension of Time. Should there be any other fee due in

connection with this Response, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 15-0680 (Orscheln Management Co.). Should the Examiner deem that any further action on the part of Applicant would be desirable, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael K. Boyer
Attorney for Applicants
U.S. Patent Off Reg No 33,085
Tel: 660 269-4536
Fax: 660 269-4530
Email: mboyer@orscheln.com

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